REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6-10, 12 and 14-19 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 8, 12, 14 and 18 have been amended. Claims 4-5, 11, 13 and 20-23 have been canceled.

In the last official action, the Examiner rejected the previous claims as anticipated or obvious in view of Reece, Valentine and Sladek. In response, it is respectfully submitted that the claims as presently amended are neither shown nor suggested by the prior art of record.

As amended, independent claims 1 and 14 now recite a consumer premises equipment (CPE) configured to be connected with one of <u>a selectable plurality of call agents</u> in response to user input, each call agent using one of a plurality of call control languages; "wherein the CPE includes at least a first telephone jack that couples the CPE to a first subscriber telephone and a second telephone jack that couples the CPE to a second subscriber telephone; wherein the first subscriber telephone communicates with a first VoIP service provider using a first call agent and a first call control language, and the second subscriber telephone communicates with a second VoIP service provider using a second call agent and a second call control language that is different from the first call control language." Thus, the amended claims require <u>the connection of two different subscriber telephones to a single CPE such that each of the subscriber telephones communicates with a different VoIP service provider using a different call agent and a different call control language</u>.

Support for the newly added limitations in claims 1 and 14 may be found, for example, in the Specification at page 17, line 20 – page 18, line 11, which provides as follows:

It is envisioned that a similar method as shown in FIG. 4, can be provided to each of a plurality of subscriber telephones 107 that are configured to each fit within a plurality of RJII telephone jacks 107 as shown in the embodiment in FIG. 3. For example, there are 4 subscriber telephones 107 shown in the embodiment of FIG. 3 as being connected to the CPE 101. A first user that connects to one of the subscriber telephones 107 can connect to a selected one of a plurality of MSO's, call agents, call control languages, or calling options, using the method 400. A second user can pick up another one of the subscriber telephones, by interfacing with the signaling application 372 and the provision application 374, and can select either of the same call options, call control languages, call agents, as provided to the first subscriber telephone 107. Alternatively, the second user may be required to select a different group of users, as indicated by the interaction between the CPE 101 and the remote call agents 108.
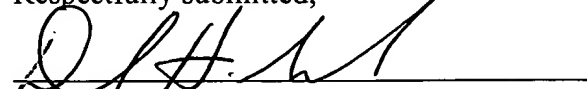
In the embodiment of telephone communications across the VoIP system 100 shown in FIG. 5, the CPE 101 is arranged to (sic) each subscriber telephone 107a to 107d can be in communication with a different service provider 160 or 162, using a different call agent and a different call control language. ...(Emphasis added).

None of the prior art of record shows or suggests the features underlined above

and reflected in amended claims 1 and 14. In particular, the prior art fails to show or

suggest the connection of two different subscriber telephones to a single CPE such that

each of the subscriber telephones communicates with a different VoIP service provider

using a different call agent and a different call control language, as presently claimed.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that all pending

independent claims are in condition for allowance, and that all dependent claims are

allowable because each dependent claim depends from an allowable base claim. A

Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees due in connection with this filing Deposit Account 50-0310. A duplicate of this authorization is enclosed.

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